

Edinburgh Geological Society – Excursions 2023



Excursion title:	Great Cumbrae, Firth of Clyde		
Date & start time:	Saturday 29 April 2023, 10:30am	Finish time:	16:00
Leader(s):	Fiona M ^c Gibbon		

Excursion aims and description:	The geology of Great Cumbrae can be summarised as red sandstone and basaltic dykes, but in fact, there are numerous types of each as well as a major fault crossing the island. This excursion will examine Devonian conglomerates and overlying Carboniferous strata with excellent sedimentary structures as well as numerous dyke suites, some of which have been enhanced to become major landmarks.		
Meeting point:	Carpark beside the ferry terminal on Great Cumbrae.		
Transport details:	Make your own way to Great Cumbrae which involves a 10 minute ferry crossing from Largs. We will arrange sharing car transport on the island with a view to minimising the number of vehicles that need to be ferried across. https://www.calmac.co.uk/article/2969/Cumbrae-Largs---Cumbrae-Slip		
Excursion route:	Clockwise tour round Great Cumbrae's coast with a drive into the interior to the vantage point (if weather permits).		
Terrain, walking distance, height gain:	The fieldtrip will involve short walks on the coast with car shuttling between sites. A total walking distance of only a couple of miles across the whole day, with little change in elevation. We will be walking on beaches and wavecut platforms which will be slippery in places. There will also be a few short walks across rough ground to examine exposures in fields.		
Specific or Medium- / High-Risk Hazards	None.		
Control measures required to mitigate against any Hazards referred to above:			
Hard hats or Hi-viz clothing needed?	None required.		
May dogs be brought on the excursion?	No dogs please, due to nearby livestock.		
Toilet information:	We will encounter public toilets in multiple locations through the day. https://cumbraecommunitytoilets.org/		
Geological map sheet:		OS map sheet:	Landranger 63 Firth of Clyde
		Sheet 29 Rothesay	
References:	Geological Excursions around Glasgow & Girvan (Geological Society of Glasgow) (Excursion 15) Arran and the Clyde Islands – A landscape fashioned by geology (BGS/SNH)		